

Chapter 3. Consultation and Coordination

Early and continuing coordination with the general public and appropriate public agencies is an essential part of the environmental process to determine the scope of environmental documentation, the level of analysis, potential impacts and mitigation measures, and related environmental requirements. Agency consultation and public participation for this project have been accomplished through a variety of formal and informal methods, including project development team meetings, interagency coordination meetings, and public information meetings. This chapter addresses Caltrans' efforts to fully identify, address, and resolve project related issues through early and continuing coordination.

A Notice of Initiation of Studies was published in the Record Searchlight on August 27, 2000 and September 10, 2000 to inform the public that Caltrans was in the early planning process and information was available concerning the development and evaluation of project alternatives. The public was encouraged to inquire and comment on the proposal. The notice indicated that a public information meeting would be conducted if enough interest in the project were generated. There are no responses to the public notice on record.

On December 17, 2003, the Caltrans Project Manager was invited by the Lakehead Community Development Association to make a brief presentation during one of their meetings at a local restaurant. A presentation was made to the Association, which is comprised of about 11 members, regarding project alternatives and project schedule.

A notice was published in the Record Searchlight on January 7, 2004, advertising an open-house format public information meeting. Notices were mailed directly to appropriate public agencies, interest groups, and interested parties. The meeting was held on January 20, 2004 at the Lakehead Lions Club Building. Project information presented at the meeting included the project purpose and need (problem) statement, alternative alignments for the bridge replacement, potential project related impacts, project schedule, and an outline of the project development process. Approximately 41 people attended the meeting, including local residents, local business owners, and representatives from the Shasta-Trinity National Forest and the Bureau of Reclamation. Eleven comments were received as a result of the public information meeting. It was determined that one comment warranted a written response. The comments and Caltrans' response to comment number 11 are included in Appendix C.

A Value Analysis was conducted in May 2004. Value Analysis is defined by Caltrans as "the process used to improve the quality and reduce the cost of transportation

projects and other Caltrans programs.” Alternative A1 was developed during the Value Analysis process.

Agencies contacted during the project planning stage include:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Shasta Lake Ranger District

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation

United States Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Water Quality Unit

California Department of Fish and Game, Region 1

Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Shasta County Department of Agriculture

State Office of Historic Preservation

Native American Heritage Commission

Redding Rancheria

Wintu Education and Cultural Council

Central Valley Wintu Toyon Center/Keswick Rancheria

The Draft IS/EA Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact was circulated for public review from October 11, 2006 to November 9, 2006. A public notice was published in the Redding Record Searchlight regarding Caltrans’ intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and to advertise a public information meeting. A copy of the public notice was also posted in the Shasta County Clerk’s Office during the public review period. Copies of the draft environmental document were distributed to interested individuals and organizations, appropriate agencies, and the State Clearinghouse. Copies of the public notice were sent to various parties that may have an interest in the project. Copies of the draft environmental document were made available for public review during the comment period at the Shasta County Library in Redding and at the Caltrans District Office on Riverside Drive in Redding.

The public information meeting was held on October 30, 2006 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Lakehead Lion's Club. A voluntary sign-in sheet was posted at the entrance to the meeting hall. Thirty seven people signed in. Various project and process related displays were arranged in the meeting hall. Comment cards were available at the meeting. A formal presentation was not made. Caltrans staff were present to discuss the proposed project and answer questions.

Written comments received during the draft circulation period and Caltrans' responses are included in Appendix F. A copy of the State Clearinghouse letter noting the results of the state agency review is also included in Appendix F.



Chapter 4. List of Preparers

This Initial Study was prepared by the California Department of Transportation, North Region Office of Environmental Management in Redding, within input from the following Staff:

ARTURO CEBALLOS, Transportation Engineer. Contribution: Roadway design.

TIM ELLISON, Associate Landscape Architect. Contribution: Soil stabilization, contour grading and site restoration.

TOM GRAVES, Associate Engineering Geologist. Contribution: Hazardous waste site assessment.

ROXANNE HAATVEDT, Associate Environmental Planner (Generalist). Contribution: Visual Impact Analysis.

ILLINGWORTH & RODKIN, Inc. Contribution: Bio-acoustic Noise study.

JASON LYNCH, Senior Bridge Engineer, Contribution: Bridge design.

DAN MCGANN, Associate Environmental Planner (Archaeology). Contribution: Archaeological studies and coordination.

CANDACE MILLER, Associate Environmental Planner (Natural Sciences). Contribution: Biological studies and coordination.

CHRIS QUINEY, Associate Environmental Planner (Generalist). Contribution: Environmental coordination and document writer.

TED SCHULTZ, Transportation Engineer. Contribution: Storm water Coordination and Water Quality Assessment Report.

BENJAMIN TAM, Transportation Engineer. Contribution: Project level noise analysis.

